

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending December 3, 2000**. Farmers in many parts of the state are preparing for next year’s crop. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 17 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1999	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat	Planted	95	91	98	99	0	7	46	40	7
	Emerged	83	78	88	93					
Cattle						2	8	40	42	8

County Agent Comments

“Rain has allowed producers to plant wheat and late winter grazing. The cool weather has kept germination of seed to a minimum. Harvest is finished! A few warm, sunny days would allow wheat to germinate and early planted wheat and winter grazing to grow. The question now is what will next year bring and can we survive?”

— Ronald L. Jones, Marshall County

“Recent rains were welcomed and needed to help replenish the water levels. More rain is needed throughout the winter to help get the water levels back to normal since we have had dry summers for the past few production seasons.”

— Guy Wilson, Washington County

“Rainfall this week continued to help winter grazing and wheat production. Hay is still short.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison County

“Rains have greatly helped our ryegrass to emerge, although we are very late this year. Some recent frosts have injured the top growth and may have thinned some stands. Cattlemen are feeding hay and looking for ways to stretch available supplies. Some prescribed burning is now being carried out on timberland. Beetle damage seems to have subsided on loblolly pine. Area ponds and streams are improved but still are below normal.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

“Continuing rains have replenished many ponds and creeks, which are needed for watering cattle. Regularly occurring rains throughout the winter and spring will help replenish the subsoil moisture for next year. We've never had so much fun playing in the mud!!”

— Richard Hay, Amite County

“The cold temperatures have hampered fall vegetable gardening. Trees continue to suffer from the severe drought that has gripped the area for the last two years. Recent rains have helped to fill ponds.”

— Chance McDavid, Harrison County

“Some cattlemen are able to get some limited grazing on ryegrass. Many cattlemen are still looking for hay.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones County

“Everything is looking better. Ryegrass and wheat are growing--it is slow, but it is there. We need moderate temperatures to keep them growing.”

— Stephen Winters, Grenada County

Weather Summary from November 27, 2000 to December 3, 2000 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale				48									
Cleveland	65	32	46			0.24		1	9.74				
Tunica	60	29	46	47	-1	0.14	-1.19	2	8.59				
Extreme/Average	65	29	46	49	-3	0.19	-1.21	2	9.17				
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs				46		0.20	-1.20	1					
Memphis	66	31	45	48	-3	0.03	-1.36	1	6.22				
Oxford	68	25	45	47	-2	0.20	-1.20	1	9.31				
Extreme/Average	68	25	45	48	-3	0.14	-1.26	1	7.77				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	65	28	44	47	-3	0.03	-1.37	1	7.54				
Corinth				47		E0.10	-1.24	1					
Iuka	64	22	41			0.00		0	6.30				
Pontotoc	65	29	45	48	-3	0.10	-1.25	1	8.62	53	47	50	0.06
Tupelo	65	27	43	48	-5	0.04	-1.31	2	8.53				
Verona	66	29	45			0.07		1	9.39	57	42	49	
Extreme/Average	66	22	44	48	-4	0.06	-1.34	1	8.08	57	42	49	0.06
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	68	32	48	51	-3	0.12	-1.21	1	8.99	61	46	54	
Greenwood	67	28	44	50	-6	0.25	-1.07	2	7.90				
Rolling Fork	69	33	47	51	-4	0.11	-1.08	1	6.09	60	47	53	0.05
Stoneville	66	33	47	50	-3	0.30	-1.10	2	8.92	59	42	50	
Yazoo City	69	32	47	52	-5	0.06	-1.33	1	8.93				
Extreme/Average	69	28	47	51	-4	0.17	-1.23	1	8.17	61	42	52	0.05
5. Central													
Carthage	69	28	46	51	-5	0.06	-1.25	1	6.82				
Jackson	67	30	45	52	-7	0.31	-0.99	2	7.21				
Winona	67	26	43	48	-5	0.13	-1.25	2	12.56				
Extreme/Average	69	26	45	51	-6	0.17	-1.15	2	8.86				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.08	-1.10	1	6.31				
Columbus	66	28	45			0.42		3	7.85				
State University	69	28	47	50	-3	0.15	-1.07	2	9.58	55	47	50	0.06
Extreme/Average	69	28	46	50	-4	0.22	-1.06	2	7.91	55	47	50	0.06
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	70	34	49			0.53		2	8.91	62	44	52	
Natchez	68	31	47	55	-8	0.26	-1.18	3	9.74				
Oakley	70	30	47	52	-5	0.47	-0.80	2	9.60	61	44	52	
Vicksburg	69	32	48			0.57		2	8.04				
Extreme/Average	70	30	48	53	-5	0.46	-0.90	2	9.07	62	44	52	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	68	33	49	54	-5	0.17	-1.23	2	8.03				
McComb	67	31	47	53	-6	0.23	-1.14	2	5.35				
Extreme/Average	68	31	48	54	-6	0.20	-1.13	2	6.69				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						E0.10		1					
Hattiesburg	67	34	50	54	-4	0.13	-1.21	3	11.93				
Laurel	66	30	47	53	-6	0.00	-1.26	0	8.04				
Meridian	67	26	45	52	-7	0.09	-1.20	3	6.09				
Newton	68	26	46	51	-5	0.17	-1.06	2	8.31	50	42	45	0.08
Extreme/Average	68	26	47	53	-6	0.10	-1.18	2	8.59	50	42	45	0.08
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	76	34	51			0.02		1	11.31				
BiloxiAFB	68	37	53			0.00		0	8.13				
Gulfport	65	38	52	58	-6	0.00	-1.18	0	11.56				
Pascagoula	75	32	50			0.01		1	10.60				
Poplarville	67	35	51	55	-4	0.13	-1.16	1	9.19	62	53	57	0.11
Extreme/Average	76	32	51	57	-6	0.03	-1.18	1	10.67	62	53	57	0.11
State	76	22	47	51	-4	0.19	-1.14	2	8.49	62	23	48	0.07

DFN = Departure from Normal.

'E' = Estimated Value.